



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Delta Regional Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
MISSISSIPPI FIELD OFFICE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2012 CENSUS PROFILES MISSISSIPPI FARMERS AND AGRICULTURE

The land in farms dropped by 4.6 % while the number of farms dropped by 9.3 % for Mississippi.

Jackson, MS, May 2, 2014 – Today the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released the final 2012 Census of Agriculture results sharing a wide-range of information about what agricultural products were raised in the United States in 2012, and where, how and by whom they were grown. The data, which are reported at the national, state and county level, will help farmers, ranchers, local officials, agribusiness and others make decisions for the future.

“The 2012 Census of Agriculture provides a wide range of demographic, economic, land, and crop and livestock production information as well as first-time or expanded data,” said Becky Cross, Delta Regional Director. “Many of these data about Mississippi and our counties are only collected and reported as part of the every-five-year census.”

The 2012 Census of Agriculture data show the following key data for Mississippi.

- *Land in Farms (acres) – 10,931,080*
- *Number of Farms - 38,076*
- *Average Size of Farm (acres)- 287*
- *Average Age of Operator- 60.4*

To provide easier access to the data, NASS created a number of online tools for people to find and use Census data, including:

- [Quick Stats 2.0](#) – an online database to retrieve customized tables. For those new to this tool, a new [tutorial video](#) provides easy-to-follow instructions.
- [API](#) – a tool for developers.
- [Agricultural Atlas Maps](#) - profiles of the nation’s agriculture at the county-level in a series of multicolor pattern and dot maps
- [Desktop Data Query Tool](#)- a downloadable desktop tool to analyze data without Internet access once you have downloaded and installed this tool.

For more information about the Census of Agriculture including all the final 2012 Census of Agriculture results, and tools to access and share the data, visit www.agcensus.usda.gov.

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